

DOLLAR\$ & \$ENSE

AUGUST 2021

CONFERENCE TREASURER

New Online Apportionment Website is Coming!

The Conference Treasurer's office has been working on rolling out a new online payment website. We have used www.vaumcpayapp.org since 2012 and we wanted to update our system and provide additional features for our churches. We receive more than \$9 million each year through our current website and average 225 churches that use the online remittance monthly. The current website is still accessible and will remain in place for at least another month, but we wanted to give you a heads up that a change is coming.

Some of the features in the new system will include:

- Online payments of apportionments and other benevolences, like Special Sundays
- Update your church's bank and routing information online
- View historical payments online

If you are interested in helping us test the new system and be one of the first to use it, please send an email to caroldraper@vaumc.org. We plan to begin testing in August.

Local Church Audit

As we lead into the Fall, many churches are beginning to prepare for charge conference which includes an Audit. The Audit Team should be composed of at least two people unrelated to the treasurer, financial secretary, pastor(s), finance committee chair, business manager, those who count the offerings, or the church secretary. The key to using an audit committee made up of people within the church is *independence*, both in fact and appearance with no bias. They can be members of your church or swapped with members from another church. Go to the online audit guide for step by step instructions.

<http://www.gcfa.org/forms-and-resources/financial-forms/>

Conference Summer Hours

Conference office will keep regular hours through the summer, Monday through Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm. The staff sends you all best wishes through the summer and is here to support our churches.

Local Church Online Giving Opportunity

In April of 2020, the Virginia Conference Treasurer's Office launched a donation website that members of local churches could remit donations to their church. This was the beginning of a period of hardship for many and we wanted to assist and facilitate giving for those churches that may not be able to do so on their own. We still have many churches that are utilizing this website to assist their members. If you are looking for an online option for giving, we wanted to let you know that we are still offering it to our churches.

For Churches

- * Please communicate with your members about the online giving website: www.vaumcdonations.org.
- * For faster processing, churches should instruct their donors to provide the church's GCFA #.
- * Churches that receive donations will be contacted by the conference Treasurer's office to remit the funds to the church bank account.
- * The conference is accepting the gift on behalf of the church and will acknowledge the gift for tax purposes.

For Individuals

- * To donate, please visit www.vaumcdonations.org
- * Select either Local Church Online Giving or Pandemic Relief Fund.
- * Provide the name of the church and the city; also include the church GCFA# if possible
- * The website accepts debit card, credit card, and Google Pay
- * You will receive an email which will serve as a receipt for tax purposes.

Annual Conference Offering and Kits

The Conference Treasurer's office will continue to receive support for the Annual Conference Offering through August 31st. Church treasurers should remit their church AC Offering electronically at www.vaumcpayapp.org or mail in the donation with your apportionment payment designated for Fund #5500 – AC Offering. Support for Annual Conference Kits should be designated for Fund #901440.

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